1278. The total expenditure on the establishment salaries, advertisements and contingencies, etc., of the office of the Stores Purchase Committee including the contribution of Rs. 4,000 paid to the Mysore Trade Agent's Office in London amounted to Rs. 80,820 and the incidence of cost worked to '209 per cent as against '22 per cent during the previous year.

1279. Messrs. Best & Co., Ltd., Madras, were the Clearing and Forwarding Agents for Mysore. Their Agency was terminated with effect from 1st July 1955 and competitive offers were invited from reputed firms at Madras, Messrs. South India Corporation (Agencies) Ltd., Madras, offered their services at more favourable and advantageous terms than other firms and therefore the agency was entrusted to them. The total tonnage of consignments imported and exported by the agents during the year was 5,431. The total expenditure incurred including Customs duty, landing charges, harbour dues, commission and other incidental charges for the transport of consignments to their respective destinations amounted to Rs. 13,32,210-12-0 as against Rs. 15,87,242-13-11 in the previous year.

(vii) Public Service Commission.

1280. The Public Service Commission held 25 meetings for the transaction of business which could not be disposed of by circulation. Apart from this, 96 meetings were held during the year for interview of candidates for selection for appointments to various categories of services and posts.

1281. The number and percentage of appointments held by Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Advanced Class in the Gazetted and non-Gazetted Services of the State as on 1st April 1955 were:—

—	Gazetted Service. Number	Gazetted Service. Percentage	Non-Gazetted Service Number	Non-Gazetted Service Percentage.
Backward Classes	1,014	62·90	34,266	65·36
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	42	2·61	3,280	6·25
Advanced Class	556	34·49	14,875	28·39
	1,612	100·00	52,421	100·00

1282. Apart from the appointments for which selections were made by the Commission after interview, 336 vacancies were advertised. Two thousand and sixty-five applications from eligible candidates were forwarded to the Unit Officers detaining those of ineligible candidates.

1283. Five hundred and sixty-five posts in Gazetted, Upper Subordinate and Subordinate Services were advertised for which 4,340 applications were received and 1,998 candidates were interviewed and 449 were selected by the Commission. The remaining posts were re-advertised on account of paucity of qualified and suitable candidates

1284. The response was poor in respect of the posts of Tamil Shorthand Reporters, Lecturer in Civil Engineering, Survey Instructor, Glass Blower, Lecturers in Medical College and School, Lecturer in Mathematics, Proof Reader, Kannada Publication Committee, Librarian, Central College, Leather Expert, Assistant Traffic Supervisor, Mysore Government Road Transport Department, Spinning Shed Supervisor, Raw Material, Store Keeper and I Division Mapper.

1285. The proposal for the transfer of the work of the Mysore Local Service and Pleaders' Examination Board to the Public Service Commission was still under the consideration of Government.

(viii) Efficiency Audit.

1286. Eighty-nine regular inspections of offices were conducted by the Efficiency Audit Department, including the Office of the Commissioner of Transport, six Offices of the Regional Transport Authorities, three District Excise Offices, ten Sub-Division Offices, 21 Taluk Offices, seven Public Works Division Offices, seven Forest Division Offices, seven Sales Tax offices, five Agricultural Offices, three District Education Offices and the Office of the Peshkars of the Mysore Charities at Thirupathi and Benares.

1287. Fifty surprise inspections mostly of Sub-Registry Offices and taluk Treasuries were also conducted.